

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please rewrite the paragraph appearing on page 1, lines 4-7 as follows:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/940,770, filed August 29, 2001, now ~~pending~~ U.S. Patent No. 6,762,244, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/285,463, filed April 2, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,284,840, the disclosures of which are incorporated by reference herein in their entirety.